

The JFK files

As boy, Oswald fantasized about killing

WASHINGTON (UPI) — When Lee Harvey Oswald was 13, a psychiatrist found him to be suffering from delusions of power and fantasies about killing or hurting people.

At 15, Oswald had begun to study Marxism. The next year he wrote to the Socialist Party in New York for more information about its Youth League.

And after the assassination of John Kennedy, Oswald's Russian-born wife Marina told police it was Oswald who "had an obsession to get his name in history" and tried to kill Gen. Edwin Walker, a prominent Dallas right-winger.

These facts emerged from the newly-released FBI documents providing new insight into Oswald's psychological makeup and motivations.

The Warren Commission's handling of Oswald's motives has often been criticized as unsatisfactory.

"Lee," stated a psychiatric profile on Oswald compiled in 1953, "has to be diagnosed as a personality pattern disturbance with schizoid features and passive aggressive tendencies. He has to be seen as an emotionally quite disturbed youngster who suffers under the impact of ... emotional isolation and deprivation, lack of affection, absence of family life

and rejection by a self-involved and conflicted mother."

Children's probate court of New York City ordered the profile because of Oswald's excessive absences from school: "The root of his difficulties seems to be his relationship with his mother (Marguerite Oswald) ... a rigid, self-involved woman with strong ideas."

Years later, in the first FBI interview with Oswald, conducted 18 months before the assassination, agents found Oswald a "cold and arrogant" man.



Lee Harvey Oswald

The memo said Oswald "beat his wife ... Marina, and "drank to excess" while living in Fort Worth.

There were three FBI views of Oswald before the assassination.

The FBI memo said Oswald was first interviewed upon his return to the United States from the Soviet Union. The date was June 14, 1962, in Fort Worth, Texas. The

agents found Oswald "very curt and short in answering many questions and gave the impression of being cold and arrogant. He advised that he was not willing to take a polygraph test."

Oswald told the agents he was never recruited "at any time" by Soviet intelligence, and provided no information on the Russians.

The second interview took place Aug. 16, 1962. Oswald disclosed that he had contacted the Soviet embassy in Washington to provide his Russian-born wife's current address — "which was required by Soviet law."

At the end of that interview, according to the document, Oswald agreed to "contact the FBI if any person ever contacted him in the United States under suspicious circumstances."

The third — and last — interview came Aug. 10, 1963, in New Orleans. Oswald told agents that he was unemployed but voluntarily working for the Fair Play for Cuba Committee.

"Other than the connection with the FPCC, investigation developed no subversive data regarding subject ..." But the memo ends with two blanked out portions with handwritten questions — "Why not? When? — in the margin.